grant has been fully explained in the notes to the Standing Finance Committee. I request the House may be pleased to grant the same.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* Is it for repairs?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Yes.

Demand put and carried.

16&17. Rs. 3,150 under "11—Forests & Tramway—A. I. a. 1" and Rs. 10,075 under "11—Forests & Tramway—A. 1. a. 2"

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 3,150 under "11—Forests and Tramway—A. 1. a. 1". I may also be permitted to move along with it the next item, *viz.*, Rs. 10,075 under "11 Forests and Tramway—A. 1-a. 2" as both are related to the same subject. The necessity for these grants has been set forth in the note placed before the Standing Finance Committee, and I request that the House may be pleased to grant them.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, may I know what exactly will be the amount that will be realised on account of this contract?

Mr. President : Prices cannot be given out. It will be approximately over 1 lakh.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know whether there was any other contractor who could have taken up this work? This gentleman does not seem to be a Cochinite contractor.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* There was no question of Cochin or non-Cochinite contractors. We do not confine our sales of timber to Cochinites alone.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know whether any attempt was made by Government to fetch the highest price?

Mr. President : Some of these questions take my breath away.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* We cannot help it. Here is a huge contract to the extent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees. We would like to know whether it would have been possible for Government to fetch higher amounts, than this. It is not an attempt to take the President's breath away.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* These are species which have ordinarily no market. The sale was effected

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in response to an enquiry undertaking to purchase a large quantity of these species at very good prices.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has there been any demand previously for these Kalpine and Vellapine timber.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* Only for small quantities ordinarily.

Mr. President : There is nothing very complicated about this affair. Government have sold 10,000 candies of a species of timber which, as the Conservator has pointed out, has ordinarily no market. He offered extraordinarily good price for it. That is all.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Unfortunately the note does not explain all these things. It is not our purpose to attack the *bonafides* of the Government at all.

Demands put and carried

18 to 20. Rs. 3,000 under "11—Forest and Tramway—2—Tramway—B. I. b. 4.", Rs. 2,625 under "11—Forests and Tramway—2—Tramway—B. 3. c." and Rs. 9,800 under "11—Forests and Tramway—2—Tramway—B. 3.b."

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* Sir, I may be permitted to move the next three items also together as they all relate to Tramway maintenance. Rs. 3,000 under "11—Forests and Tramway—2—Tramway B.I b. 4", Rs. 2,625 under "2. Tramway B. 3. c." and Rs. 9,800 under "2—Tramway, B. 3. b." The necessity for these grants have been fully set forth in the notes presented to the Standing Finance Committee. I request the House may be pleased to grant them.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Is there any necessity for spending these huge sums when there is the possibility of electrifying this tramway?

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* You cannot create a wire rope by electricity *(laughter)*.

Demands put and carried.

21. Rs. 2,300 under "7—Excise—Supplies and Services—Transport charges, etc., of opium and ganja"

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 2,300 under "7—Excise—Supplies and Services—Transport Charges, etc., of Opium and Ganja". The necessity for the additional allotment has been explained in the note to the Standing Finance Committee. I request the House to grant the allotment.

Demand put and carried

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